

REMARKS


Claims 1 – 9, 14 – 28 and 31 – 45 are presently pending. Of these presently pending claims, Claims 7 – 9, 14 – 21, 26 – 28 and 31 – 38 have been withdrawn from consideration. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent ('417) in view of Van Deventer ('016) or Koyano et al ('081). Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent ('417) in view of Zhang et al ('861). Claims 1-3, 22, 39 – 42 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robinson ('202) in view of Kersey et al ('410). Claims 4 – 6 and 23 – 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, the limitations of Claim 4 have been incorporated into Claim 1 and Claim 4 has been canceled. Similarly, the limitations of Claim 23 have been incorporated into Claim 22 and Claim 23 has been canceled. Claim 39 has been amended to recite the step of rotating the polarization of the signal output by the second port and should, therefore, be allowable for the same reason that Claim 1 is allowable. Inasmuch as these claims have been objected to as being dependent upon the rejected base claims and have been incorporated into the respective independent claims, these claims should be allowable. Claims 43, 44 and 45 have been canceled.

Hence, the Application is believed to be in proper form for allowance.
Reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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